

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

Status of the Application

Claims 1-12 are pending in the application. Claims 1-12 were objected to for various formalities. The drawings have been objected to under 37 C.F.R. § 1.83(a) as allegedly failing to show every feature of the invention specified in the claims. In particular, the guide element comprising a cable must be shown or canceled from Claims 4-7.

By this reply, Claims 1, 2, 6-8, and 10-12 have been amended in accordance with the Examiner's suggestions. No new claims have been added or canceled. As such, Claims 1-12 remain pending in this application.

In addition, the Applicant respectfully traverses the objection of the drawings under 37 C.F.R. § 1.83(a).

Objections to the Drawings Under 35 C.F.R. § 1.83(a)

37 C.F.R. § 1.83(a) states:

Content of drawing.

- (a) The drawing in a nonprovisional application must show every feature of the invention specified in the claims. *However, conventional features disclosed in the description and claims, where their detailed illustration is not essential for a proper understanding of the invention, should be illustrated in the drawing in the form of a graphical drawing symbol or a labeled representation (e.g., a labeled rectangular box).* In addition, tables and sequence listings that are included in the specification are, except for applications filed under 35 U.S.C. 371, not permitted to be included in the drawings. (*emphasis added*)

The Applicant respectfully states that the embodiment of the claimed "guide element" as a cable—or belt or rod—in Claims 4-7 is a conventional feature disclosed in the specification (see paragraph 45) and claims, and that a detailed illustration of the guide element is not essential for a proper understanding of the invention. As such, the "guide element" illustrated in the drawings in the form of a graphical drawing symbol or a labeled representation (e.g., 16, 17) is in compliance with 37 C.F.R. § 1.83(a).

The Applicant respectfully submits that the drawings are in compliance with U.S. patent law and requests removal of the objections. Formal drawings of the original filed figures are submitted herewith.

Objections to the Claims

Claims 1-12 have been amended in accordance with the Examiner's suggestions. As such, the Applicant submits that these claims are in condition for allowance and respectfully requests removal of the objections and issuance of the pending claims.

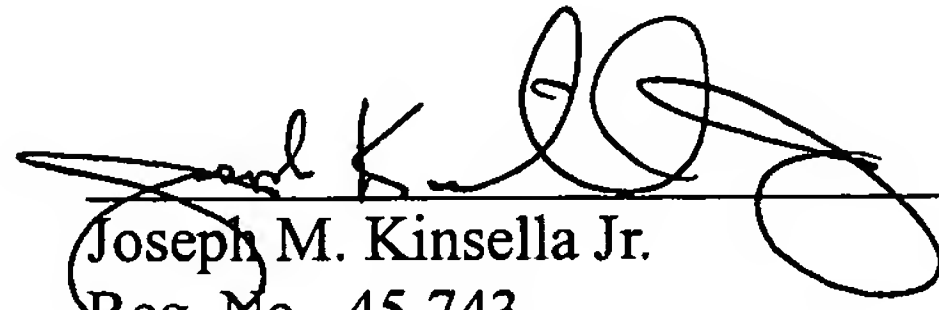
CONCLUSION

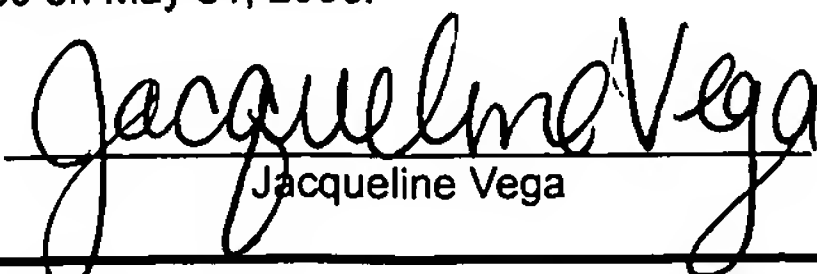
Based on the foregoing amendments and remarks, the Applicant respectfully submits that pending claims are in condition for allowance and therefore requests that a timely Notice of Allowance be issued in this case. If the Examiner believes a telephone conference would expedite the allowance of the claims to issue, a call to the undersigned at (312) 226-1818 is earnestly solicited.

The Applicant believes that no fees are required with this correspondence; however, if any fees are required, the Commissioner is authorized to debit Applicant's Deposit Account 50-0545 to cover the costs of any required fees.

Respectfully submitted,

Dated: May 31, 2006


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<p align="center">CERTIFICATE OF FIRST CLASS MAILING</p> <p>I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as first class mail in an envelope addressed to: Mail Stop Amendment, Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450 on May 31, 2006.</p> <p align="center"> Jacqueline Vega</p>
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